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C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 001837

SIPDIS

TREASURY FOR GLASER/ZARATE

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [EFIN](#) [KTFN](#) [ETTC](#) [PGOV](#) [JO](#)

SUBJECT: AML LAW GOES TO PARLIAMENT

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires David Hale for reasons 1.4 (b), (d), and (e)

[1](#)1. (SBU) Finance Minister Mohammed Abu Hammour informed Charge on March 5 that Jordan's Cabinet had approved the anti-money laundering (AML) bill that it had been considering over the past month. Abu Hammour had consulted with Abdul-Hadi al-Majali, the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, and noted to him that the bill was among those marked as "urgent" by the GOJ for priority attention. Given the large number of bills and the short time remaining in the current Parliamentary session (which ends March 31), Abu Hammour told Charge that the GOJ could only "hope" that the law would be passed during this sitting. Otherwise, the law would be considered in the extraordinary summer session.

[1](#)2. (C) The AML bill, first drafted by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) with the assistance of the IMF in early 2003, had initially been sent back by the Cabinet to the CBJ to be rewritten, then was placed on the backburner by the GOJ for some time. After sustained USG engagement on the issue, the GOJ has moved the passage of the bill to the top of its agenda.
HALE